

Poetry.

COMFORT.

HELEN F. MORRIS.

Oh, heart distressed,
Bowed down, oppressed,
Fear not God's help will come too late!
The treasures at His command
Are full and rich; great armies stand
To do His word; He can create
A paradise from desert land;
The chafing force of wind and sea
He can subdue to His decree;
All earth's deep-hid resource and might
Lie in His grasp, to crown or smite;
This royal and majestic power
Can, at His will—in one brief hour—
Be summoned forth to help and bless
One trembling soul in heaviness,
One of His own.

—*Christian Intelligencer.*

Contributions.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH OF 1896.

Held at Eagle Lake, Indiana, August 27-31 and Sept. 1.

FIRST SESSION.—TUESDAY AUG. 27, 2 P. M.

Conference was called to order by the Moderator, W. C. Perry. Devotional services conducted by Elder E. L. Yoder. Scripture Lesson, 104 Psalm. The moderator appointed the following committees: On Credentials and Enrollment of delegates.—E. L. Yoder, J. C. Cassel, L. W. Ditch. On Organization.—Z. T. Livengood, M. C. Meyers, E. J. Worst. The Committee on Credentials and Enrollment reported the following:—Congregations represented, 57; delegates, 98. The report was adopted.

Report of Committee on Organization:—We your Committee on Organization recommend that the Moderator and Vice Moderator of this Conference be elected by ballot. We present to this Conference the name of J. L. Gillin for Secretary, J. C. Beal for Assistant Secretary, and John Keim for Treasurer.

Z. T. LIVENGOOD.

M. C. MEYERS.

E. J. WORST.

Report adopted and nominees elected.

Election of Moderator and Vice Moderator resulted as follows:—Moderator, J. C. Mackey; Vice Moderator, J. M. Tombaugh. The Moderator appointed the following committees: On Rules.—C. F. Yoder, W. D. Furry. On Order of Business.—J. C. Cassel, Z. T. Livengood. On Committees.—J. Allen Miller, L. W. Ditch, G. W. Rench. On Resolutions.—J. D. McFaden, J. M. Tombaugh, S. J. Harrison. Adjournment.

SECOND SESSION.—FRIDAY, AUG. 28, 9 A. M.

Devotional services conducted by I. D. Bowman. Scripture Lesson, I Cor. 13. Report of Committee on Rules.—We your Committee on Rules submit the following:—

1. The courtesies of this Conference shall be extended to all in attendance, but voting shall be restricted to duly authorized delegates.

2. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon any question except by permission of Conference.

3. No speech shall exceed ten minutes in length except by permission of Conference.

4. No person shall be allowed to speak until he has been duly recognized by the Moderator.

5. The Moderator shall immediately call to order any speaker using personalities, or in any way overstepping the courtesies of the Conference.

6. All resolutions shall be reduced to writing.

7. All delegates are expected to be present at all sessions of the Conference unless prevented by some absolute necessity. Adopted.

Report of Book and Tract Committee:

ASSETS.

Amt. of stock on hand, \$ 125 00

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS.

Ledger No. 1, \$235 00

" " 2, 820 60

S. S. Literature, 175 50

Subs. charged

on Sub. book, 775 00

Total outst'd'g accts, \$2006 00

Amount of total assets, \$2131 10

LIABILITIES.

Bills payable, \$485 00

Other obligations, \$1106 46

Amount of Total Liabilities, \$1591 46

Net Assets, \$ 539 64

Amt. of business done, \$5105 70

Total Receipts, 5137 24

Expenditures, 5858 69

The Book and Tract Committee offered the following resolutions which were adopted as read:—For the purpose of more efficient work and better system therein, we your committee recommend that this Conference elect a Brethren Publication Board, consisting of five members, who shall be the legal successors of the present Book and Tract Committee. We further recommend that the editors of the various lines of literature shall be members of this Board, ex officio.

Moved and carried, That the members of the Brethren Publication Board be elected as follows:—One member for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years, or until their successors are elected. Adjournment.

THIRD SESSION.—FRIDAY, 2 P. M.

Devotional Services were conducted by J. B. Wampler.

The Committee on Committees reported the following committees: On General Church Work.—J. R. Keller, W. W. Summers, L. S. Bauman. On Education.—J. O. Talley, I. D. Bowman, J. M. Tombaugh. On Woman's Work.—Laura E. N. Grossnickle, Sarah Keim, Etta Harrison. On Mission Work.—J. M. Bowman, J. C. Cassel, W. C. Perry. On Young People's Work.—W. D. Furry, Z. T. Livengood, A. D. Gnagey. On Temperance.—Daniel Crofford, R. R. Teeter, E. E. Haskins.

J. ALLEN MILLER.

G. W. RENCH.

L. W. DITCH.

Report adopted.

Moved and carried that the Committee on committees make nominations for members of Publication Board. Result of election of members of Publication Board. J. C. Cassel 5 years; J. M. Tombaugh 4 years; J. C. Mackey 3 years; J. O. Talley 2 years; G. W. Rench, 1.

Resolved:—That the form of report of the Publication Board be so amended as to give the expense and income of each of the following:—EVANGELIST, Brethren and Youth's Quarterlies, Cheering Words, Our Little Folks, King's Children, Book and Tract Department. Adopted.

Resolved:—That at the coming Conference delegates submit their congregational dues with their credentials to the Conference. Adopted.

Moved and carried that a Committee be appointed by the chair to audit the accounts of the Book and Tract Committee. The chair appointed the following as members of above committee:—Z. T. Livengood, J. Allen Miller, Frank Switzer, A. B. Gnagey.

Resolved:—That in the event of not having National Conference annually that the Publication Board publish their financial report in the EVANGELIST at the end of the business year. Adopted.

Adjournment.

FOURTH SESSION.—SAT., AUG. 29, 9 A. M.

Devotional services conducted by J. R. Keller.

Moved and carried that the Secretary prepare a register, that all who attended Conference from a distance, might register their names and addresses therein.